

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FACILITATING THE TRANSPORTATION
OF MEDICAL IMAGES ON A COMMUNICATION NETWORK**

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for facilitating the transportation of medical images on a communication network includes a medical image transport service (MITS) that may be used to set policy associated with the delivery of medical images on the network. The MITS may be configured to schedule transactions in an equitable manner taking into account the relative priority of the various contending medical image transactions and mediate delivery of images associated with the transactions. The MITS may include a data management service configured to interact with clients to handle transfers on the network, and a network resource manager configured to interface with network devices performing the transport services to enable network resources such as routes, paths, and bandwidth, to be reserved on the network. An administration client enables policy to be set on the MITS to enable operation of the transport service to be controlled.